Application No.: 10/578,605

Examiner: H. M. Mathew

Amendments to the Claims

Claims 1-14. (Cancelled)

Claim 15. (Currently Amended) Produce A produce decontamination apparatus

comprising a chamber for accepting produce to be decontaminated and/or sterilised, [[and]]

means for producing a free radical saturated atmosphere within the chamber so that, in use, the

free radical saturated atmosphere decontaminates and/or sterilises the produce, the means for

producing a free radical saturated atmosphere including one or more first atomising sprayheads,

a supply of ozonised liquid which is supplied to the first sprayheads, means for breaking down a

ozone forming part of the ozonised liquid once discharged from the first sprayheads, said means

for catalysing breakdown of ozone including a coating on an interior of the chamber, the coating

having one or more ozone catalysing materials.

Claim 16. (Cancelled)

Claim 17. (Currently Amended) Apparatus The apparatus as claimed in claim [[16]]

15, wherein the means for breaking down the ozone forming part of the ozonised liquid is in the

form of an ultraviolet emitting device.

Claim 18. (Currently Amended) Apparatus The apparatus as claimed in claim [[16]]

15, wherein the means for providing producing a free radical saturated atmosphere further

comprises means for catalysing [[the]]breakdown of hydrogen peroxide formed from the ozone

of the ozonised liquid once discharged.

Claim 19. (Currently Amended) Apparatus The apparatus as claimed in claim 18,

wherein the means for catalysing the breakdown of hydrogen peroxide includes one or more

second atomising sprayheads, and a supply of catalysing liquid which is supplied to the second

sprayheads, the catalysing liquid catalysing the breakdown of the hydrogen peroxide formed

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form the ozone of the ozonised liquid once discharged from the second sprayheads.

Claim 20. (Currently Amended) Apparatus The apparatus as claimed in claim 19, wherein the catalyzing liquid includes ferric ferrous ions.

Claims 21-22. (Cancelled)

Claim 23. (Currently Amended) Apparatus The apparatus as claimed in claim [[22]] 15, wherein at least one of the ozone catalysing materials is titanium oxide, titanium dioxide, or manganese oxide.

Claim 24. (Currently Amended) Apparatus The apparatus as claimed in claim 15, wherein the chamber houses two vertically spaced conveyor belts.

Claim 25. (Currently Amended) Apparatus The apparatus as claimed in claim 24, wherein [[the]] vertical spacing between the conveyor belts is adjustable.

Claim 26. (Currently Amended) Apparatus The apparatus as claimed in claim 15, wherein the chamber is open to atmospheric pressure.

Claim 27. (Currently Amended) Produce decontaminated using the produce decontamination apparatus as claimed in claim 15.